CZM Green Infrastructure for Coastal Resilience Pilot Grants Program FY14

RFR ENV 14 CZM 07

Questions and Answers

Q1. Are there any specific application forms that need to be submitted with the request?

A1. The Request for Responses (RFR) submittal must include an original proposal (limited to 10 pages) plus a cover sheet, maps, photos, resumes, and letters of support (that are not counted towards the 10-page limit). Five double-sided copies of the application package are also required. Section 3D of the RFR lists additional documentation that selected respondents will be required to complete.

Q2. Are information sessions planned?

A2. No, information sessions will not be held.

Q3. Is eelgrass restoration an eligible project under this grant?

A3. The goal of this grant program is to advance local efforts to implement measures to increase natural storm damage protection, flood control, and community resilience. To be eligible, projects must demonstrate that they will provide coastal storm damage protection through erosion control, wave attenuation, storm surge buffering, and/or flood storage and also enhance natural resources by creating or restoring habitat and supporting recreational and other values of natural systems.

Q4. Is invasive plant control on the marsh platform and subsequent native vegetation regeneration of the managed area a competitive project?

A4. Preferred techniques are listed in Section 2B (Eligible Projects) of the RFR. All proposals will be evaluated on a competitive basis, based on the criteria in Section 3A of the RFR.

Q5. Can other state funds be used as match for the grant?

A5. Yes, non-capital state funds can be applied as match as long as the funds have not been used as match for another government grant program and the funds have been approved by the agency.

Q6. Are resumes included in the 10-page limit?

A6. No, resumes will not be counted in the 10-page limit for the main text of the proposal.

Q7. Since ribbed mussel seed for shoreline stabilization projects is limited, would developing hatchery and nursery techniques followed by planting of seed to support a deteriorating marsh edge be eligible for funding?

A7. The goal of this grant program is to advance local efforts to implement measures to increase natural storm damage protection, flood control, and community resilience. To be eligible, projects must demonstrate that they will provide coastal storm damage protection through erosion control, wave attenuation, storm surge buffering, and/or flood storage and also enhance natural resources by creating or restoring habitat and supporting recreational and other values of natural systems. If the limited availability of ribbed mussel seed is well documented and directly linked to limitations in standard hatchery and nursery techniques, then development of new transferable techniques may be considered as a component of an on-the-ground living shoreline project.

Q8. The RFP states that "projects must be completed on or before June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, depending on the specific project…" Some of the dune construction work that we will be applying for cannot be done until the fall of 2014 due to endangered bird nesting restrictions, which start on April 1. Can we presume that our request for completing work by June 30, 2015 will be accepted?

A8. Applicants should demonstrate that work cannot be completed by June 30, 2014to request a June 30, 2015 contract end date. It is expected that selected projects with a June 30, 2015 end date will have some tasks that can be effectively completed by June 30, 2014.

Q9. Are the bio-engineered technologies described in the RFP eligible in a barrier beach/dune environment?

A9. Coir rolls and sand-filled bags are used for coastal bank stabilization, but are not currently recommended for natural barrier beach/dune environments. These bio-engineering techniques are typically located at the toe of the coastal bank and may include beach areas directly fronting the coastal bank. Please see CZM's StormSmart Properties fact sheet on *Bioengineering - Coir Rolls on Coastal Banks* (available at www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/stormsmart-coasts/stormsmart-properties/fs-4-coir-rolls.html) for more information. Beach nourishment, dune

restoration, and innovative native vegetation techniques would be considered for barrier beach/dune environments. Please see CZM's StormSmart Properties fact sheets on *Artificial Dunes and Dune Nourishment* (available at www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/stormsmart-coasts/stormsmart-properties/fs-1-dunes.html) and *Planting Vegetation to Reduce Erosion and Storm Damage* (available at www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/stormsmart-coasts/stormsmart-properties/fs-3-vegetation.html) for more information.